

OMB APPROVAL	
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>CLAUDIUS LLC</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O GALEN MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.</u> <u>680 WASHINGTON BLVD.</u> <hr/> (Street) <u>STAMFORD CT 06901</u> <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ACURA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC [ACUR]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <u>Former 10% owner</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/14/2017</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/14/2017		s ⁽¹⁾		2,195,734 ⁽²⁾	D	\$0.1	0	I	See footnote ⁽³⁾

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>CLAUDIUS LLC</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O GALEN MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.</u> <u>680 WASHINGTON BLVD.</u> <hr/> (Street) <u>STAMFORD CT 06901</u> <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip)		
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

GALEN PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL III L P

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O GALEN MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.
680 WASHINGTON BLVD.

(Street)

STAMFORD CT 06901

(City) (State) (Zip)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

GALEN EMPLOYEE FUND III LP

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O GALEN MANAGEMENT L.L.C.
680 WASHINGTON BLVD.

(Street)

STAMFORD CT 06901

(City) (State) (Zip)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

Galen Management, LLC

(Last) (First) (Middle)

680 WASHINGTON BLVD.

(Street)

STAMFORD CT 06901

(City) (State) (Zip)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

GALEN PARTNERS III L P

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O GALEN MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.
680 WASHINGTON BLVD.

(Street)

STAMFORD CT 06901

(City) (State) (Zip)

Explanation of Responses:

1. The shares were sold in a private transaction pursuant to a stock purchase agreement by and among Galen Partners III, LP ("Galen III"), Galen Employee Fund III, LP, ("Employee Fund") Galen Partners International III, LP ("Galen International") and several purchasers.
2. The shares were sold as follows: 2,006,540 by Galen III, 180,928 by Galen International and 8,266 by Employee Fund.
3. Claudius, L.L.C. serves as the sole General Partner of Galen III and Galen International and has sole voting and investment control over the shares held by such funds and may be deemed to beneficially own the shares held by such funds. Galen Management, L.L.C. serves as the sole General Partner of Employee Fund and has sole voting and investment control over the shares held by Employee Fund and may be deemed to beneficially own the shares held by Employee Fund. Each of the Reporting Persons disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares reported herein, except to the extent of its respective pecuniary interest therein.

Remarks:

/s/ David W. Jahns, Member of 01/02/2018
Claudius, L.L.C.
/s/ David W. Jahns, Member of
Claudius L.L.C., the General 01/02/2018
Partner of Galen Partners
International III, L.P.

/s/ David W. Jahns, Member
Galen Management, L.L.C., 01/02/2018
the General Partner of Galen
Employee Fund III, L.P.

/s/ David W. Jahns, Member 01/02/2018

/s/ David W. Jahns, Member of
Claudius, L.L.C., the General 01/02/2018
Partner of Galen Partners III,
L.P.

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.